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COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT
ASSISTANCE
PROGRAM

OVERVIEW

The Community Development Assistance Program (CDAP) is designed to help local governments meet locally defined community needs. Funded with federal block grant dollars, the program is a broad based effort of business, labor and government to stimulate community revitalization and economic development. Direct grants or loans are provided on a competitive state-wide basis. Units of local governments with populations of 50,000 or less may finance a broad range of projects in the primary categories of economic development, public facilities and housing.

The Illinois Community Development Assistance Program is designed to support three nationally established objectives. They are:

To benefit low and moderate-income persons.

To aid in the prevention or elimination of slums and blight.

To meet other community development needs that pose a serious and immediate threat to the health and welfare of the community.

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CDAP PROGRAM COMPONENTS:

Economic Development Competitive

Grant Ceiling: \$400,000

Submission: Quarterly Cycle

This program category supports economic development in the commercial and industrial sector. Only projects that create or retain permanent, private sector jobs are considered for funding. Funds are made available to localities as grants which are passed to businesses as low interest loans.

Selection Criteria

At least 51 percent of persons benefiting from the program are low to moderate-income.

Fifty percent or more of total project funds derived from other public/private sources.

All awards predicated on financial feasibility ("for profit" enterprises must provide a bank commitment letter stating terms of participation and three years of historical financial statements and two year projections).

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Community Development Assistance Set-Aside Program

Grant Ceiling: \$200,000

Submission: As Needed Basis

The primary objective of this program is the ability to rapidly respond to community natural disasters or unique economic development opportunities.

Grant awards will be made on a very select basis according to demonstrated need.

Funds are made available to "for profit" enterprises as loans from the municipality.

Selection Criteria

At least 51 percent of persons benefiting from the program are low to moderate-income.

Fifty percent or more of total project funds derived from other public/private sources.

All awards predicated upon financial feasibility (provide a bank commitment letter stating terms of participation and three years of historical financial statements and two year projections).

Demonstrate substantial community-wide impact, e.g., jobs created, increased tax base.

Public Facilities and Housing Competitive

Grant Ceiling: \$400,000

Submission: Annual

The primary objective of this category is to fund public facilities and housing related projects which address serious threats to public health and safety and housing projects that address serious problems.

Public Facilities Selection Criteria

At least 51 percent of persons benefiting from the program are low to moderate-income.

Twenty-five percent or more of the requested block grant funds derived from other public/private sources.

Documented serious public facility needs or deficiencies.

Housing Programs Selection Criteria

At least 51 percent of persons benefiting from the program are low to moderate-income.

Twenty-five percent or more of the requested block grant funds derived from other public/private sources.

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Documented housing and related needs of all tenure types and special population groups (i.e., elderly, handicapped, minorities, etc.).

Project implementation feasibility.

Small Business Financing Fund

Grant Ceiling: 20 Percent of a Project or
\$100,000 Maximum

Submission: As Needed Basis

This program provides financing at below market rates in cooperation with private lenders. The purpose of the program is to help new or expanding Illinois small businesses to create or retain jobs and increase their asset base.

Under the program, a typical loan structure would be:

15-20 percent CDAP or other public funds.

80-85 percent bank loan. (The SBA guarantee is still available for projects under this program.)

Applicant Information

Only general units of local government (municipalities, townships and counties) may apply for Community Development Assistance Program funding. Municipalities must be 50,000 or less in population and must not be part of an "entitlement" or "urban county" program.

To learn about the Community Development Assistance Program or to receive a copy of the Application Guidelines, please contact the department's marketing division in Springfield at 217-782-3891, Chicago at 312-917-6649 or Marion at 618-997-4371. ◆

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